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THE PERFECT FRIEND.

One only friend we have
Accounted true,
Joe only love is cure
This will endure.

All other friends are dust
Do make love cool
Who gave them for our lust
And cruel hate.

All other loves are gone
Or have lost savor
Of them and souls that left
Our love cold.

But friends remember true
This life will end,
And love will fall to all
Who know no foe.

And loves however strong
In time have power
Of them and souls that left
Our love cold.

Friend of all will come
Home and enfold,
Bounty will chill, and death
Unto friendship holds.

Oh, view of heart to look
What you are now—
One only perfect friend
Hath and knows.

—E. S. Elwell in New York Independent.

The Transition of Electrical Theories.

To the question, "What is electricity" which is often asked, no absolute and satisfactory answer has yet been found. Notwithstanding the wonderful development of electrical applications, electricians are still feeling their way as to the nature and scope of the principles of the operation of the mighty force that they are learning to control. This was suggestively shown by a remark made by the vice president of the American Institute of electrical engineers at the annual convention of that body.

The speaker claimed that the present theories of electricity should be regarded merely as stepping stones to more comprehensive and satisfactory ones. He contended that modern theories of electrical phenomena, if adopted as an absolute framework of all our knowledge of these subjects, may, in a few years, become prison bars that will prevent the mind from making a free and unprejudiced investigation of new theories and new phenomena, and giving due weight and significance to the general reliance of electricity to the results obtained by the most recent experimenters.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The Future of the Mississippi Valley.

The delta of the Mississippi, below its junction with the Ohio, richer than the Nile or the Rhine, exceeds the combined area of Holland and Egypt, and is destined under the stimulus of free labor and the incentives of self government to hold a place of society more opulent and enduring. Add to this the inexhaustible alluvion of the streams above, and the fertile prairies from which they descend, and the arithmetic of the past has no logarithms with which to compute the problems of the economic and commercial future of the west. It will be predominant in the development, not of this country alone, but of the hemisphere, and will give direction to the destinies of the human race.

We stand in the vestibule. We have not yet entered the temple.—John J. Ingalls in Lippincott's.

He Was the Dolls.

When, in 1885, Professor Freeman was examining Battle abbey, he found himself dogged by a person who, as he thought, somewhat officiously extended his offers of assistance. After vainly trying to shake him off, he broke forth with: "I don't want your assistance. The Duke of Cleveland promised that I should not be interfered with by the gardeners." "Exactly so," was the reply; "I hope they have obeyed my orders. I am the Duke of Cleveland."—San Francisco Argonaut.

A London Bachelors' Club.

The Bachelors' club, a London institution, in 1891 suffered no fewer than twenty-three defections in the shape of members who married, but the club gained $375 in fines at the rate of $25 a wedding. The club is flourishing, and seems on the whole to encourage rather than deprecate matrimony as a fine art. There are still 839 bachelors in the list of members.—London Tit-Bits.

Dear Note Pupils.

It is not generally known what wonderful progress has been made in this country of late years in teaching the dumb to speak. It appears from the official records that last year articulation was taught to no less than 4,045 pupils in American schools for the deaf. In a large number of these cases the infirmity dated from birth and was inherited.

Discovered Affection.

Clara—Can it be, Dolly, that you are to marry Mr. Smith, after saying to me repeatedly that you could not endure him?

Dolly—The truth is, Clara, dear, that until I heard that his uncle had died leaving him a fortune I was deceived in my own feelings toward him.—Exchange.

In New Orleans the dog catchers who feed the pound with vagrant curs proceed about their work with a slip noose, which they hold in front of the dog's head or under his feet.

The Spanish government has taken possession of the largest shipbuilding works in that country, and is offering inducements for English shipwrights to superintend the work.

Horace Greeley says described a very famous literary woman of the last generation as "a great woman and a great liar. Her talk was immoral."

It is a curious fact that the late Earl of Tarborough should have married a lady named Hare, and the present one a lady named Fox.

A SUBURBAN COTTAGE.

The Home Art of Good Taste, with Standard Costs—Cost, $1,800.

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The dwelling here is presented to the small suburban village to cost about $1,800, as estimated by a local contractor. In giving a description of it we designed, we find the floor plans to be so to use all rooms in good advantage. The design is made to accommodate as many rooms as possible with the least number of exterior

PERSPECTIVE VIEW.

walls, using only one for the whole house. The rooms throughout are of fair size, with abundance of light and other home. The entrance hall is slight and possesses an attractive ornamental character. The parlor is 10x15 ft. It is lighted by a bay window on the front and furnished with an open grate. Sliding doors connect it with the hall and dining room. A well fitted pantry opens off the dining room and kitchen and is provided with good room by double swing doors.

SIDE ELEVATION.

On ascending the front stairs we find a small corridor, from which each of the principal bedrooms is entered. The foundation is of stone, the walls 20 inches thick, laid dry and neatly pointed with mortar. The chimney of good hard burned brick laid in good mortar. The entire first and second stories laised and plastered one coat, finished with white sand. The second floor is of second clear white pine. Clapboards of sound pine and shingles of clear cypress. The floors are of pine. The

FIRST STORY.

inside finish is of well seasoned white pine. All interior doorways and made 6½ inches thick with beveled rails and stiles and raised panels, exterior doors 2¼ inches thick, with glazed upper panels. All of the exterior to be painted two coats. All of the interior standing finish on first floor to be oiled finish, on second floor to be stained and varnished. The floors in kitchen and pantry to be oiled. The plumbing conveniences are from sink in kitchen

SECOND STORY.

sink and the necessary waste pipes and traps, etc. The height of ceilings is: In cellar, 7 feet, first story, 9 feet, second story, 8 feet. Attic unfinished.

The timbers are of good quality pine. Sills 6x8, first and second story joist, 2x8, attic joist, 2x6; studs and rafters, 2x4. Walls are sheathed with felt and covering paper and covered with lapped siding.

GEORGE W. FLYNN.

New French Screens.

In a lately manufactured French screen there are four charming panels in art needlework. The ground through which pale roses unite. Naturally the design is dainty and pretty, since it is after the French school. Musical instruments are a favorite and such like—form water pieces. Surrounding these are large silk—Decorator and Furnisher.

Mantelshelf Decoration.

Make a piece of white wood to run along the top and go down in front, just as a mantel border does. On the front of this paint bunches of oranges and their blossoms, making a little conventional border in brown at the edge. When this is polished it looks beautiful. People who cannot draw could make one equally well by tracing on a pattern, or by having one cut and mounting it on Chasell's Magazine.

A Neat Washstand Duck.

It is fitted with three or five panels for coal plaques, or for paintings in imitation of tiles. Above these is a long, narrow shelf with a curtain in front of it. Above this again is a shelf for vases or suitable ornaments.—Decorator and Furnisher.

The Indigestible Banana.

"Next to pork," says a physician, "the banana is the most indigestible thing a person can eat, and if you will notice you will see them vomited very sparingly by people with weak stomachs. If you can digest them, however, and don't mind the offensive odor, they are very nourishing and one can make a meal on them that is in every way equal to a substantial bowl of bread and meat."—

A LIGHT SHOOTING HARDOR.

A Progressive Agriculturist Tells in The Ohio Farmer How to Make It.

The harvest I had made would need for a special purpose, that is to say, a place where I could put my tools, farming implements, and it does so much better work and so much faster than any other made thing I ever saw that I would not like to be without it. It is just as good for hoeing rods as for pitchers, as it turns. The field should be harvested as soon as possible after shelling and thoroughly cured a week until the kernels fear to sit before kiln. Cut one hole and the corn so nicely and then one two boxes, always driving between the rows so as not to trample on rows of corn.

The woodwork of this harvester is of good, seasoned white oak painted twice with linseed oil and lead paint, and is now old. The bottom can be made of old valley barrels, into thoroughfares on each, or get a good quality sawed out on to which boards and have sharpened, making them about 1 inch wide and half thick, drive down over with top of beams. I will give a list of the material needed for one hoeing: Twenty boards, 1 inch, planed on all sides 4 inches wide and 16 feet long; 4 pieces 2x4 inches, 16 feet long; 120 feet lath, light lath, sawed or square 4 feet 2 inches long; 10 small sawing 8 ft. 2 inch; 2 inch; 2 pieces of 2 inch 2 inch; 2 pieces of 2 inch 2 inch; 2 pieces of 2 inch